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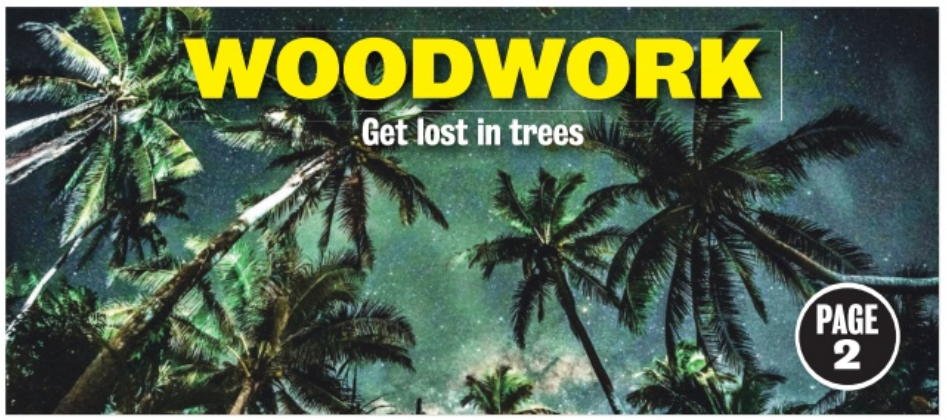
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 19 | Humidity 73% Generally cloudy sky Sensex 60,260 | Nifty 17,944 | Gold 51,541 | Silver 56,799 | Dollar 79.40 | Euro 80.73 | GBP 95.64



Women midday meal workers on indefinite strike at Freedom Park denied facility of toilets, safe drinking water

FREEDOM PARKED

Bisi-Oota workers want pay raise alongside benefits

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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Hundreds of 'Bisi-Oota' workers or 'hotmeal' crew, most of them on contract providing midday meals at government schools in rural Karnataka, are on an indefinite strike at the Freedom Park demanding a raise in pay which is at present a meagre Rs 2,600.

On Wednesday afternoon, this reporter found some Bisi-Oota workers protesting in front of the toilets at Freedom Park demanding immediate restoration of water supply. They said they have been struggling to use the unhygienic toilets. The BBMP's horticulture department, the custodian of Freedom Park, had failed to supply water to the restrooms.

"There are only eight toilets for women. We have to wait in line to use the toilets. There has been no water since morning. Women are compelled to bring water in plastic bottles," said Bhagyalakshmi, a Bisi-Oota worker from Kolar.

The women were on indefinite strike from Tuesday. They said there was no problem for water on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

Midday meal workers gathered at Freedom Park

"There are only eight toilets for women...There is no water since morning. Women are compelled to bring water in plastic bottles

– Bhagyalakshmi, Bisi-Oota worker, Kolar

Free Bird

40% drop in manja cases this year compared to 2021

| Garima Prasher
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As schools, businesses and offices have reopened in Bengaluru, the number of cases of entangled birds rescued from killer manja strings illegally used in kite-flying has come down considerably.

Data compiled from various city based rescue centres showed there has been a 40% drop in manja cases this year compared to 2021. Between January and August last year, the rescue centres had logged 2,527 cases of various birds entangled in Chinese and cotton strings. However, this year, the number of cases reported so far is 1,514.

"There was a spike in the number of manja cases after the second lockdown (June-August) last year, but the cases started decreasing steadily from September and have now come down to pre-lockdown range. Now, people are busy with day-to-day activities and children are occupied with in-person classes. This is the most important aspect behind the drop in rescue cases," said Subiksha Venkatesh, rescue manager, Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Centre (ARRC).

ARRC has received 1,382 manja rescue cases so far this year compared to 2,527 cases till August last year.

The centre recently conducted a manja cleaning drive at the Hennur Biodiversity Park and reported fewer manja thread entangled on trees. Experts said raids conducted by the BBMP last year to confiscate

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Tunes to remember

In celebration of India's platinum year of Independence, Indian Music Experience Museum (IME), is organising a three-day classical and folk music 'Freedom Festival' featuring highly decorated Indian musicians from the Karnatic, Hindustani and Folk genres. The Freedom Festival will showcase a total of thirteen concerts over three days; highlights of which would be special performances by Padma Vibhushan Dr Umayalpuram Sivaraman, exponent of Carnatic percussion instrument, the mridangam, Langa musicians from Rajasthan and folk musicians from Bengal. **Where: IME and MLR Convention Centre premises, JP Nagar; When: August 26 onwards;**

02 Reflections and more

The He(ART) exchange is a 2-hour reflective journey that uses techniques from creative arts therapy to aid self-exploration. Participants will engage in art, play, movement and sharing circles to reconnect with the innermost part of themselves. Facilitated by experienced art and movement therapists, this experience promises to be reflective, rejuvenating, relaxing and a whole lot of fun! The event is being conducted by Katharsis counselling. **Where: Bangalore Creative Circus; When: August 21, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Info: 9310992492**

03 Dark Light, live

As part of other performances lined up at Hard Rock Cafe Whitefield, Dark Light is going live playing a tribute to English rock band Pink Floyd. Formed in 2013, the Bengaluru-based five-piece band is known for progressive music elements and ambient psychedelic soundscapes. **Where: Hard Rock Cafe, Whitefield When: Saturday, August 20, 7 pm onwards**

Treespotting: Roots that matter

August tree festival is here and environmentalists are checking if our trees are in the pink of health

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PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Based on their observations, participants in the city and beyond can report the results on the portal

The much-awaited August tree festival is here and environmentalists are excited. The pan-India festival that is ongoing till August 31, will allow people to keep a count of trees and their status and health among the 166 common tree species found in the country, including Bengaluru.

The participants have to go outdoors and observe 166 common tree species. The festival has two challenges: observe more than 200 trees and as many Ficus trees as possible. All one has to do is, walk around their neighbourhood and spot the trees that fall under the 166 species list and upload the details on SeasonWatch.in.

The individuals will have to register on the websites and they could choose options based on their observations. "One can check if at least 1/3rd of the branch has one fresh, mature leaf, or if more than 1/3 of the branch has it. There are other options like 'none' (no fresh/mature/dying leaves) and 'don't know', if one cannot identify clearly. Similarly, one can observe the fruits and flowers." said Sayee Girdhari, the SeasonWatch project coordinator.

This study is crucial as seasonal behaviour forms the basis for studying the impact of climate change on trees, and by extension, on the lives of all other organisms dependent on trees. Tropical trees are diverse owing to the geographical and climatic diversity of India. This diversity makes it tricky to study the response of trees to climate change as each kind of tree behaves differently in different parts of the country.

Some of the species include some iconic native trees such as banyan and neem, as well as exotic trees that put out spectacular flowers, such as jacaranda. There are also some region-specific trees, such as rhododendron, and Box Myrtle, that are seen only in the Himalayas or even the wood apple tree.

Sayee added, "For the tree festival, people from all over India will be simultaneously observing trees for a few days. Through these festivals, we hope to make tree-watching as mainstream as birdwatching."

Participants have to observe more than 200 trees falling in the category of 166 tree species mentioned

Dr Geetha Ramaswami, the project lead of SeasonWatch and a participant, adds, "I had fun during the April tree festival because I got the opportunity to compare the trees which I have been monitoring for the past three years. I had coincidentally taken photos of the same tree in April 2021 and '22 and it was amazing to see how nearly identical the tree looked."

SeasonWatch is an India-wide program that studies the changing seasons by monitoring the annual cycles of flowering, fruiting and leaf-flush. Based in Bengaluru, they carry out the activity in other states as well.

Wanderlust? Book that flight now

Caps on air fares set to be withdrawn from August 31

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If you've been mulling taking that much-needed break for Dasara or Deepawali, now may be the best time to book your tickets. Thanks to the government fare band -- which sets an upper and lower price limit for domestic air tickets -- being withdrawn on August 31, airlines are now free to reduce or hike fares with no capping.

What this means: cheap fares during lean season and heavily priced tickets during peak travel season. Fares for non-stop flights to most destinations for travel in September are comparatively cheaper than they ever were in the past few months. For instance, the cheapest Bengaluru-Delhi one way fare for travel in the first week of September starts at Rs 6,899.

"Travellers should book well in advance. Since fare caps have been removed, fares will purely be based on demand-supply situations," according to the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI).

An airline official said, "We're anticipating high demand for travel during this year's

Deepawali holidays. By October 1, fares for travel during October-end are likely to be at least 20-24 per cent costlier than what they are today." The move has drawn mixed reactions from travellers. "The airline prices follow dynamic pricing and it is always disadvantageous for last-minute plans. So, the upper cap limit was beneficial for the last-minute travellers as though the prices would be comparatively higher than those who booked earlier, the tickets could not be priced above a certain number. That will change now," said Selvan S, a techie.

However, other travellers say that this can be beneficial. "I usually travel during the lean period so that not just flight tickets but hotels are also not expensive. Now, I hope that we will have an option to choose when to travel depending on the flight ticket prices," said M Nawaz, a businessman.

Why was it enforced?

On May 21, 2020, the civil aviation ministry fixed a 'fare band maximum and minimum fare an airline can levy for domestic tickets. "It's necessary to ensure airlines do not charge excessive amounts," the order said. Domestic flights were divided into seven categories based on flight time, and upper and lower limits for fares were prescribed.

"At least 40 per cent of tickets of a particular flight shall be sold for fares less than the mid fare between minimum and maximum fares," the order said. It was revised in an order passed on January 8, 2021, which said only 20 per cent of fares need to be lower than mid fare.

Thereafter, the upper and lower bands were increased, making fares more expensive. The Centre continued to revise the fare band, and as it climbed higher, cheaper tickets were hard to come by.

What are fares like now?

Fares for travel from September 1 onwards will not be capped. Uncapped fares were what existed pre-Covid. It means fares will now fluctuate over a longer price range. During lean season, fares will crash; when demand spikes, fares will sky-rocket.

You are in (a pretty long) queue

Stuck in long queues at ticket counters, Metro riders want BMRCL to think of other options

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If you are in a hurry to reach your destination, the long queues in front of ticket counters at metro stations can seem to be infuriating. Many commuters of the Namma metro, having been victims of long queues, are demanding that the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) find solutions.

"Two days ago, I decided to travel by metro. There were almost 50 people waiting in a queue for tokens at MG Road Metro. On top of that, there was no one handling customer care, so for smart card recharge we had to stand in the queue as well," said Sharada BV, a commuter.

She added that the web top-up option was not working and it took 10 minutes because someone held up the queue. There was reportedly only one employee at that time, slowing down the process further.

Some commuters say that Ticket Vending Machines (TVMs) at metro stations might help speed up the process. These vending machines are available at metro stations in other cities like Delhi.

"Sometimes I am in a hurry and do not want to wait in the queue. We have a card so we should be able to recharge it from customer care, but sometimes there is no one there. TVMs will help as people who choose to buy tokens can get it from there. People will not need to crowd up one single window," said Easha Joshi, another regular commuter.

"After ticketing went digital, people moved towards it and TVMs became non-operational. We aren't planning to install more TVMS
– BL Yashwanth Chavan, BMRCL

Joshi also said that many people prefer the system to be contactless, something vending machines can facilitate. Delhi has had vending machines for decades for tokens as well as smart card recharges, she said.

Ten years ago, in 2012, BMRCL had installed TVMs at three metro stations: MG Road, Baiyappanahalli, and Indiranagar - which were capable of issuing single journey tickets (tokens) and adding balance to contactless smart cards. The machines accepted coins of Rs 5 and Rs 10 to start with. They would also accept all types of Rs 10, Rs 20, Rs 50, Rs 100, Rs 500, and Rs 1,000 bank notes too. However, these vending machines are no longer functional.

BL Yashwanth Chavan, Chief Public Relations Officer, BMRCL, told Bangalore Mirror that they are researching more relevant solutions than a TVM.

"Since digitalisation happened, people moved towards digital payment and TVMs became non-operational. Now we aren't planning to install more of them at metro stations. We are instead looking into other ideas that match the trends today. For example, QR codes can make your mobile screen itself a token. The research is in process. We will come up with ways to make ticket issuance easier."

Metro passengers complained that usually there are not enough personnel to man the ticket counters at stations

Job aspirant once bitten, twice bitten

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The Chikkaballapura Cyber Crime police on Tuesday arrested two vehicles dealers from Andhra Pradesh for cheating a woman online after luring her with a job offer.

The accused have been identified as Ganesh Chethan from Madanapalli and his associate Harish Kumar from Puttaparthi Town.

According to the police, Ganesh, posing as an executive from online recruitment agency, contacted Shantha GM from Shidlaghatta and offered her a telecaller's job from home with a salary of Rs 26,000.

The accused extorted as much as Rs 2.6 lakh from the victim on the pretext of joining fee, security deposits and other service charges at different dates.

The victim got suspicious when Ganesh started demanding more money and warned him that she would approach the police, but at this time, the accused Ganesh Chethan set one of his associates Harish Kumar to call her in the house of a crime police officer.

Harish Kumar called Shantha posing as crime branch staffer and offered to help her and get her money back from Ganesh and took Rs 55,000 from her.

Cheated twice, Shantha finally approached the cyber crime police and filed a complaint. Based on the complaint, the police tracked down the accused after tracking money transaction details. The police are checking now to ascertain the criminal background of both the accused.

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Nightmare sewage plant chokes nearby residents

People from Chikkanagamangala, Doddanagamangala are living amidst pollution, stench

BBMP PROVIDE KAUVERY WATER SEWAGE LINES ROADS.
WE NEED JUSTICE & ACTION FROM B.B.MP
WE NEED JUSTICE&ACTION FROM B.B.MP
BBMP PROVIDE KAUVERY WATER SEWAGE LINES ROADS.

People hailing from areas affected by the plant protest over health hazards it is reportedly causing; they want BBMP to take concrete steps

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Residents of Chikkanagamangala, Doddanagamangala, and other villages within a four-km-radius of a Municipal Solid Waste processing plant protested against the irreversible pollution being caused by the plant.

People from these localities have been complaining about the plant for two years now, but their pleas have gone unheard. They reported that the waste generated from the plant, which is being dumped in front of it, is leading to a foul stench.

"We had demanded for the plant to be shut down, but the BBMP has not done that. Instead, they are coming up with ways to stop the smell, which hasn't helped – Sridhar S, resident

Apart from this, leachate water from the plant is going to the Chikkanagamangala plant which is hurting lakes.

Sridhar S, a resident of Chikkanagamangala, said, "We have been suffering here for years. The smell is the worst part and it gets difficult to even breathe. We had demanded for the plant to be shut down, but the BBMP has not done that. Instead, they are coming up with ways to stop the smell, which hasn't helped till date."

He added that thousands of residents are living with major health hazards. Another resident, Swagatha T, said, "The government does not bother about the residents of Chikkanagamangala and Doddanagamangala. The pollution impacting every house here needs immediate attention. The plant needs to be shut down. None of the provisions of SWM Rules 2016 have been followed."

In order to address the demands of the residents, a meeting was held by the BBMP Joint Commissioner (South zone). Following the meeting, he ordered the removal of waste lying outside the window shed immediately. He further added that spraying of chemicals for odour and pest control are to be carried out in surrounding villages.

Additionally, the construction of a Leachate Treatment Plant with a capacity of 50,000 litres is proposed to be completed within a six-month-period, and the surface run of water from the plant will be arrested in the premises within the capacity of 50,000 litres.

The residents, however, stated that if nothing changes in the next few days, they will protest again until the plant is shut down.

Auto fares take commuters for a ride

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Commuters in Bengaluru are fed up with the exorbitant fares charged by auto drivers. They complain that the drivers do not use metres and by the end of the ride they charge a lot for covering small distances.

Ashok Jain, a commuter, said, "I was coming from KSR Railway Station. There is a prepaid auto counter inside the station, but there is not one auto there, so people have to ask for autos from the auto stand and they charge three times the normal amount to take us to our destinations. I wanted to go home, near Magadi Road Metro Station, which was just some three kilometres away."

He told BM that the auto driver charged him Rs 200, and since it was dark and he was unable to find any Ola autos, he agreed to it.

Commuters say that it is because of the high prices charged by auto drivers that people are forced to use two-wheelers and avoid using public transport.

Auto drivers complain of high fuel prices forcing them to charge more

Rohit Kumar, another commuter, said, "My father was coming back from KSR Railway station to our home which is in Chickpet – a distance of just over two kilometres. When he looked for an auto at the auto stand, the drivers started asking him for Rs 300."

Auto drivers in front of a popular mall have also reportedly been charging an exorbitant amount to ferry people to their destinations.

Rajesh Nair, also a commuter, said, "I was going back home from the mall and the auto driver asked me for Rs 500 for taking me to Rajajinagar - which is barely eight kilometres. When I asked him to reduce the cost a little, he said that the amount he charged was justified because the fuel prices had increased."

Another frustrated commuter, Shruthi Nair, told BM that she had recently moved to the city as she had gotten a job here. She said she is not aware of the bus routes yet, which is why she turns to autos for transportation.

"I stay in Yemlur and the nearest metro station is Byappanahalli, which is eight kilometres away. However, to go there the auto drivers charge Rs 400," said Nair.

She added that half of her salary is going behind auto fares.

Manju K, an auto driver, said, "Usually people ask to go to places from where we will get no passengers and we will have to come back empty. That is a waste of fuel which is already so costly.

Hence, whenever any such destination is there, I charge a little more because I have to look at my profit as well."

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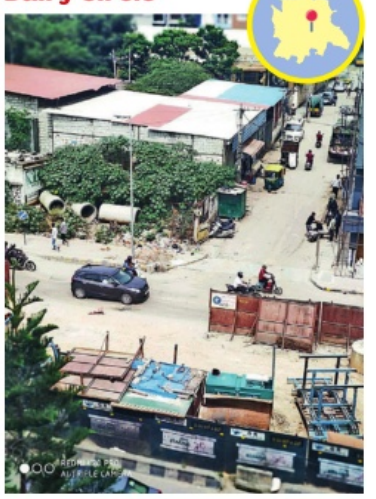
Open drain
Bhoganahalli

Open drainage work has been going on for over a year in this area at Bhoganahalli, Panathur.

Garbage menace
Dairy Circle



Garbage is piled up on a daily basis (near the water pipe sections) opposite Spar Hypermarket near Dairy Circle, Bannerghatta Road.

Faulty footpath
Telecom Layout

This is the condition of the bus shelter in Chikkalasandra, Telecom Layout. It is obstructing footpath users, forcing them to hop on to the busy road.

BBMP panel to descend upon ABC centre

After receiving several complaints against centre, 5-member committee to inspect it, but citizens question its efficacy

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The Veterinary Society for Animal Welfare and Rural Development (VSAWRD), one of the eight certified Animal Birth Control centres by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) in the city, has come under the scanner for violation of animal birth control rules. After receiving multiple complaints against the centre, a five-member committee has been formed by the BBMP's animal husbandry department to inspect the centre on Thursday.

"A five-member committee will be visiting to inspect the centre. Residents of the area have complained that the centre has picked up young dogs for surgeries and some dogs that have undergone ABC have died as well. While many residents from the area have come forward with such complaints, the committee will look for concrete evidence. In case of a lapse on part of the centre, corrective measures will be taken," said a senior official from the animal husbandry department.

Animal welfare activists and locals have reached out to the animal husbandry department and have alleged the centre has grossly violated the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2001.

As per the rules, puppies below six months of age cannot be taken for sterilisation surgery and vaccination of the young dogs has to be done on the spot. Moreover, the centre performing this procedure should have a well-equipped pre- and post-observation ward.

"VSWARD has been picking up dogs below six months of age for the surgery, relocating the dogs and even not returning them. We have had multiple cases of dog deaths and botched ABC procedures and one case of a dog that was returned with canine distemper by the center over the last two months," said Tarun Agarwal, animal cruelty officer, People for Animals (PfA).

Animal welfare activists also claim that the organisation has been blacklisted across many cities in the country due to botched procedures in the past.

Jacob Thomas, a resident of Vivekananda Nagar, recounted his experience with VSWARD. Jacob is a caregiver of community animals in the area.

"VSWARD picked up three young dogs from our area for ABC surgery. Usually, the dogs are dropped back within three days after the surgery. However, in this case, the dog was released after eight days. The workers picked up the puppies on June 1 and released them only on June 9," said Jacob.

After the dogs were released, Jacob realised that one puppy was hardly responding and had stopped eating and drinking. The puppy passed away the very next day.

According to the animal welfare workers and residents, this is not a standalone case of a botched ABC process in the recent past by VSWARD. They allege the BBMP officials are hand in glove with the organisation leading to multiple deaths of strays off late.

"The centre picks up healthy dogs and drops them back with infections. There are no CCTV cameras to monitor the activities inside the centre. We have been reaching out to the BBMP animal husbandry department for months now, but no action has been taken so far. If the centre is under investigation, it should not be operating. However, they picked up dogs as recent as yesterday," rued Agarwal.

Bangalore Mirror

Lack of facilities, sensitivity, leading to death of strays post procedure at animal birth control centres, allege animal activists, residents

STRAW DOGS

ABC centres picking up 'underage' dogs

On June 14, BM had reported about various ABC centres flouting rules while picking up puppies for sterilisation

Thumbs-down to committee

The BBMP may have promptly formed a committee to inspect the centre, but the selection of its members has not found favour with animal welfare workers and residents.

"When we met the commissioner of the animal husbandry department, we categorically requested that the committee formed should have animal welfare activists and workers on the panel and we were assured it will happen. However, they have now formed a committee without taking us into confidence. With their own officials as committee members, it is going to be a dummy inspection," said a visibly disappointed resident of the area.

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Ward delimitation, polls back in Supreme Court

The High Court of Karnataka has directed petitioners challenging the ward delimitation of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to get clarity from the Supreme Court over postponing the elections.

Seven different public interest litigations (PILs) are challenging the delimitation exercise carried out in 243 wards of the city's civic agency. Several senior advocates, on behalf of the petitioners, argued against what they claimed to be an "unscientific delimitation exercise".

A single judge bench of Justice Hemant Chandangoudar which continued hearing the petitions on Wednesday noted that there were two different Supreme Court judgements which hold contrasting views on the issue.

While one of them says elections cannot be postponed for the sake of altering constituencies, another holds the opposite view. The HC therefore directed the petitioners to clarify this from the Supreme Court itself.

The petitioners are seeking the delimitation to be redone before the elections are held.

The issue of BBMP election is already before the Supreme Court and the State Election Commission started the process for polls only after the apex court gave it a deadline. The State Government has also released the reservation list for the various wards.

Since the matter is posted before the Supreme Court, the High Court adjourned the hearing to August 29. **PTI**

Criminal stabs woman cop in a bid to escape

A woman head constable, who went to nab a murder accused who jumped court's proceedings, suffered injuries when the criminal attacked her in HAL police station limits, here.

The incident occurred on August 5 but came to the fore on Wednesday. Forty-five-year-old Head Constable Vinutha of HAL police station in Bengaluru had gone with other policemen to arrest accused Shaik Sharif (20).

The injured head constable has been discharged after treatment at a hospital. Sharif, who was out on bail, had jumped the court proceedings, after which police started looking out for him. **–IANS**

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Time of the gods

Beautifully painted Krishna idols on display at KR Puram ahead of Krishna Janmashtami celebration, on Wednesday

'Will get BJP to power again'

Yediyurappa upbeat after being appointed to party's highest decision-making body

Former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Wednesday vowed to bring the BJP back to power in Karnataka and to strengthen it in the rest of south India, following his appointment to the highest decision-making body of the party ahead of 2023 state assembly polls.

The appointment seemed like it had in some way brought back the glory that the state BJP strongman enjoyed during his heydays in power, along with the rare smile on his face, as many party leaders, legislators and ministers, including Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai made a beeline to his residence to congratulate and greet him.

The BJP on Wednesday announced the appointment of the 79-year-old leader to its Parliamentary Board and Central Election Committee.

"I have been given a huge responsibility by the party's leadership. I had never expected any position. After resigning as Chief Minister, my only aim was to bring the BJP back to power in Karnataka. When I spoke to the Prime Minister, he asked to focus on other south Indian states too," Yediyurappa said.

BS Yediyurappa is now part of the parliamentary board

Speaking to reporters in the city, flanked by Bommai and several party leaders, the former chief minister said he accepts the responsibilities given to him with utmost humility and will travel extensively, striving towards bringing the BJP back to power in Karnataka and strengthening it in other south Indian states.

"I'm the best example to say that BJP will not leave its active ordinary karyakarta. I don't believe that politics and public life are areas of retirement, and our leaders have attested it. I will work for the party and organisation till my last breath," he added.

According to Yediyurappa's office, he spoke to Modi over phone, thanking him, and the Prime Minister in turn said his service was required to strengthen the party and bring it to power not only in Karnataka, but throughout south India.

The veteran leader had resigned as Chief Minister on July 26, 2021. Age was seen as a primary factor for his exit from the top job, with an unwritten rule in the BJP of keeping out those above 75 years from elected offices; also, the party high command wanted to make way for fresh leadership ahead of the assembly polls.

Many in the party circles feel that it is an attempt by the BJP leadership to send out a message that it still has high regard for the veteran leader and was keen to utilise his experience and mentorship, amid allegations by some sections, especially the Opposition – Congress, about the Lingayat strongman being sidelined.

The move by the party leadership gains even more significance as it comes following Yediyurappa recently signalling the end of his innings in electoral politics. He had stated that he would vacate his Shikaripura assembly seat for his son B Y Vijayendra if the party fields him in the 2023 state assembly polls.

Congratulating Yediyurappa and thanking the party leadership, CM Bommai said the veteran leader's appointment will boost the morale of Karnataka BJP karyakartas. **–PTI**

Drop in manja cases

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

illegal kite strings or Chinese manja might be contributing to this drop as well.

"The drop in cases correlates with manja collected during our recent cleanup drives. There is less manja out there but the existing manja itself will continue to hurt birds for many years to come. There were some raids conducted on manja sellers last year; the sale has gone underground and obscure now. Earlier, every corner store had stocked up manjas, which is not the case anymore," added Venkatesh.

However, they warn it is not enough to cheer about as there are tons of manja still hanging out there and still being sold at many shops in Bengaluru.

Experts warn it is not enough to cheer about as there are tons of manja still hanging out there and still being sold at many shops in Bengaluru

"Clean-up drives on hotspots are important. Moreover, targeted awareness drives and stricter implementation by the authorities are required to address the issue in the long run. While manja cases are mainly associated with the Sankranti festival, things have changed in the past few years. Moreover, awareness should be spread about the use of cotton strings too. We get birds stuck in not just synthetic, but cotton threads too, leading to injuries," said another city-based bird rescue centre.

According to wildlife rescuers, birds such as black kites, crows, koels, barn owls and mammals like bats are commonly found entangled. Flight feather damage, bone fractures and head injuries due to fall and damage to the neck and legs are the most common injuries sustained by these animals.

While the National Green Tribunal (NGT) banned the use, manufacture, sale, storage and purchase of glass-coated manja or nylon threads for flying kites via an order in July 2017, the sale of the banned kite-flying thread continues in the city.

"Chinese manja is still available at many shops despite the ban. Authorities should take note of this issue and conduct surprise raids… More public awareness and strict implementation of the ban by the government is key," said Dr Navaz Shariff, general manager and chief veterinarian, People for Animals.

No amenities at Freedom Park

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

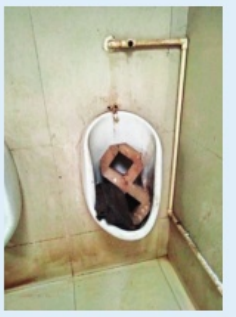
Tuesday but they found it difficult to use the toilets from Wednesday morning due to lack of water.

"We have been requesting the security guards to switch on the borewell water pump. They are avoiding switching on the pump stating there is no electricity," Bisi-Oota worker Arathi.

The protesting women complained there is no drinking water on the Freedom Park premises. "The water tanks have neither taps nor water. We have to buy water not only for drinking but also to use for toilet purposes," another Bisi-Oota worker told BM.

There are three contractors in charge of Freedom Park maintenance. One each for maintaining toilets, cleaning the premises and to maintain the park. "We engaged three contractors for sweeping, cleaning toilets, and maintaining the park. I have instructed the security guards to switch on the borewell water pump to ensure sufficient water for toilets," said Bhaskar, in-charge of Freedom Park.

He said providing drinking water was not the BBMP horticulture department's responsibility. When asked about empty synthetic water tanks, he said that there was no provision to get Cauvery water. "Water tanks put up by a few social organisations have remained empty for quite some time," he said.



Condition of one of the five urinal basins at the Freedom Park

A source told BM that the contractors have engaged a few workers to carry out maintenance of the park — cleaning the premises and even to clean the toilets.

"The contractor engaged two men to clean the toilet blocks of men and women. How can a man be engaged to clean women's toilets? He should not enter women's toilets when women are using them," a visitor said.

A policeman on duty complained about the apathy of the contractors. "We have to plead with the contractors to keep the premises clean as it has become the destination for staging protests and meetings. Four mobile toilets are kept outside the premises but no one is bothered to clean them. We have to put up barricades to avoid overflowing sewage onto the road from these toilets," he said.

It is the responsibility of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to ensure drinking water and sufficient number of toilets at Freedom Park. BBMP chief commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said he has already instructed the zonal commissioner to keep the park clean and ensure water supply to the toilets.

That said, no government authority, including the State Human Rights Commission or the Karnataka Lokayukta, both situated a stone's throw from Freedom Park bothered to visit or inspect the arrangements made for hundreds of Bisi-Oota workers on indefinite strike.

The Karnataka High Court directed the state government to ensure that no protests, meetings or processions are held in the city by any group of organisations except at the Freedom Park. The objective of the High Court's direction is to avoid traffic jams and inconvenience to the citizens when roads are blocked by people organising protests and processions.

 # De Niro & De Niro
Hollywood star Robert De Niro will soon be seen sharing screen space with himself as the acting legend is set to star in the upcoming gangster drama 'Wise Guys'

Feeling blessed

...Ananya seeks blessings for film from Vijay's mother

Actor Ananya Panday sought blessings from her co-star Vijay Deverakonda's mother at his residence in Hyderabad ahead of the release of her upcoming sports action film 'Liger'.

Taking to Instagram, the 'Khaali Peeli' actor dropped a string of pictures which she captioned, "Blessings from Vijay's amma @deverakonda and a pooja at his home in Hyderabad for Liger Thankful Grateful Blessed thank you auntyyyyy."

In the first picture, the 'Liger' couple could be seen sitting on the sofa with joined hands, smiling faces and red shawls on their shoulders.

In the picture, a group of priests could be seen standing in front of Vijay and Ananya along with the 'Arjun Reddy' actor's mother in a green saree.

In the second picture, the 'Pati Patni aur Who' actor can be seen in a happy mood, as Vijay's mother ties a band to her hand as a sign of blessing.

In the last picture, Ananya shows the bands that Vijay's mother tied to her and the 'Dear Comrade' actor's hand.

Vijay also shared the post on his Instagram stories, which he captioned, "This whole month touring across India and receiving so much love already felt like god's blessing! But mummy feels we needed his protection :) as Pooja and sacred bands for all of us. Now she will sleep in peace while we continue our tour Liger."

Both Ananya and Vijay are currently busy promoting their upcoming sports action film 'Liger' which is all set to hit the theatres on August 25, 2022, in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, and Malayalam. After multiple delays due to covid-19, the makers are currently promoting the film in full swing.

Dharma Productions recently unveiled the trailer and three songs from the film, 'Akdi Pakdi,' 'Waat Laga Denge,' and 'Aafat,' which gathered positive feedback from the audience. The film marks Vijay's debut in Hindi cinema and Ananya's first multi-lingual film.

—ANI

Bhaskar makes K-wood debut

It was the final of 2015 CCL. The Karnataka artistes' team needed seven runs to win. There was only one ball left. Actor Bhaskar was batting. Just as Tamil Nadu artistes' team was to win, Bhaskar hit a six of the last ball. That earned Bhaskar the name 'Sixer Bhaskar'.

Bhaskar, will now be making his Tamil debut with Prabhu Deva in the film 'Woolf'. The film is directed by Vinu Venkatesh.

Bhaskar, who has acted in thrillers such as 'Baby' and 'Naam Shabana', and in MS Dhoni, plays a crucial role in this film. He has acted in Kannada films such as 'Veera Parampare' and 'Warevhaa'. He was seen as a police officer in last year's super hit 'Salaga', where his performance was lauded. "I got to know Vinu at the cricket stadium. At that time, I was doing a Hindi film. He offered me two roles in the film -- I chose the investigative role. I have stepped into Kollywood through a good role. The film will also be dubbed in Hindi, Telugu and Tamil," says Bhaskar. Bhaskar plays the role of a tough cop in this film. "I had seen Bhaskar's performance earlier. In this film, his role is very powerful. There are some murders and Bhaskar's character reveals who did it. I feel, he will be seen in good roles in Kollywood in the future," says Vinu.

—Harish Basavaraj

Jacqueline named accused in money laundering case

Jacqueline Fernandez has been named as accused in a chargesheet that will be filed by the Enforcement Directorate in the Sukesh Chandrasekhar 200 crore money laundering case. The actress may not be arrested right now as the court is yet to take cognizance of the charge sheet, however she may not be allowed to travel outside the country. It is also being alleged that the actress spoke to Sukesh while he was in jail. ETimes reached out Jacqueline's team for but didn't get any response.

In the past, Jacqueline has been questioned several times by the ED. The actress had told officials that she was in touch with Sukesh Chandrasekhar since 2017 and that the conman had told her that he belonged to late Jayalalithaa's family. "I have been speaking to Sukesh since February 2017. In August 2021, he was arrested, after which I never met him. He told me that he is the owner of Sun TV and from the political family of Jayalalithaa," Jacqueline told the ED, according to PTI. The actress also mentioned that her sister took a loan of $1,50,000 from Chandrasekhar and accepted that he transferred around Rs 15 lakh to the account of her brother who lives in Australia. Previously, the ED had attached Jacqueline's assets worth Rs 7 crore. The luxury gifts received by Jacqueline include diamond earrings, bracelets, Birkin bags, Louis Vuitton shoes and a mini cooper car among other things.

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Cultural ambassador

Actress and model Iti Acharya is on cloud nine after being recognised as a Cultural Ambassador of India among 75 super talents from different fields of arts and entertainment by the Union Ministry of Culture.

Iti has acted in Dr Shivarajkumar-starrer Kavacha. "I wore traditional outfits while making my red carpet debut at the Cannes Film Festival. Saree drapist Dr Durga from Bengaluru helped me wear the saree and walk on the red carpet. I try my best to promote Indian culture and tradition while participating in international events," says Iti.

She said that she has acted in Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam movies apart from Kannada. "As of now, I am busy with a Kannada web series," she said, adding that talks are on with a few directors and producers for movie roles.

Message for youths

Four producers – Biji Arun, Kishore Narasimhaiah, Lohith H, and Jonathan augustin, have joined hands to make Life is Beautiful. "The objective of this movie is motivate youngsters who are feeling low. It has a much-needed message to the society, especially youths, to not make hasty decisions when they fail in their attempts to achieve something," said Kishore Narasimhaiah.

According to him, the story is about a 24-year-old (Prithvi Ambar) who aspires to become a writer but is compelled to take up his father's job (lift operator) when the latter falls sick. He considers it as a menial job but his attitude changes after meeting Caroline Fernandez (Priyanka Upendra).

"The story reflects on the emotions of loneliness in old age, academic and economic pressures, kindness and morality," he said.

Prithvi Ambar, Priyanka Upendra, Sridhar Konanur, Mahantesh Hiremath, Lasya Nagaraj, Sujatha, Padma Shivamogga, Suguna and Ravi Siravara form the star cast in this movie, directed by Arunkumar M and Sabu Aloysius.

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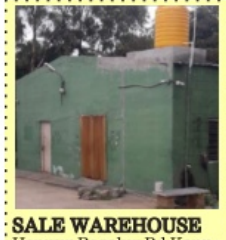

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Gopala Arvind Belamkar, holder of Indian passport no Z 2421787, issued in Dubai Uae on 8/11/2012, permanent resident of Address - House no 540, 16th A cross, 3rd main, HSR layout 6th sector, Bangalore - 560102 and presently residing at Flat no 312, Maktoum building, Oud metha, Dubai, UAE, do hereby change my name from Gopala Arvind Belamkar to Arvind Belamkar with immediate effect.

I, Deven Dilipbhai Jani, S/o Dilipbhai, residing at Villa 69, GR Sun Villas, Off Budigere Cross, Bangalore 560049, changed my name to Deven Dilip Jani on 17.08.2022 sworn before notary Manjunath T. vide certi no.IN-KA04620919197843U

I , Pinky Kumari Parasmal Shah D/o Parasmal Shah W/o Kiran Mangilal Shah . No 246 G3 Sankeshwara Namo 1st Cross Road Dattatreya Layout K.G Nagar Bangalore-560019 , Change my name from Pinky Kumari Parasmal Shah to Pinkiben Kiran Kumar Shah for all purposes.

I, MATHAVAN MADHAN, S/o, Madhan and residing at 1st Cross, 3rd Main Road, Opp Tulsi Residency, Yarandahalli, Anekal TQ, Bangalore Rural 560105 have changed my name to MADHAVAN MADHAN vide affidavit dated 10.08.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, Anis Kader S/O, Kader Aziz Jaliyawala R/o No 19/1 Old 61/a 2nd Cross K N Extension Yeshwanthapur Bengaluru - 560022 have changed my name to Anis Kader Jaliawala for all purposes.

I Rabiya W/o Anis Kader Jaliawala R/o No 19/1 Old 61/a 2nd Cross K N Extension Yeshwanthapur, Bengaluru-560022 have changed my name to Rabiya Anis Jaliawala for all purposes.

I, Sathish Kumar S R/a no 27, 'Mathrushree Nilaya', Anjan adri Layout, Dwarak anagara, Chikkabanavara B'lore-90. I state that my correct name is Sathish Kumar S as stated in my all documents like aadhar card, Pan card, Driving License and also Bank account. but in my SSLC marks sheet my name is mentioned as Satish Kumar S. In future in all records my name is mentioned and called as Sathish Kumar S only. vide affidavit dtd 16-08-22 sworn before notary Kodi Nagappaya B'lore

I, SHREYA residing at No.N-103,SNN raj Lake View Apartment, 29th Main, Madiwala Lake Road, N. S. Palya, BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560076, have changed my name to SHREYA LADIA for all purposes.

I, Prasad Medipalli and residing at No.09, 15th Main, 19th 'A' Cross, Near Agarasena Hospital, Revenue Layout, Padmanabhan agar, Bangalore 560061 have changed my minor Son's name from DAARUK MEDIPALLI to DAARUK PRASAD vide affidavit dated 08.08.2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, Begum Rabab Rizvi D/o Fazal Ali Sayad R/o 12, 6th A Cross, Ramaswamy Palya, Vignana Nagar Extn B'luru-560037 have changed my name to Rabab Rizvi for all purposes.

I Phoolaram S/O, Ranchhoddaji Dharmji R/o 46/4,lakshmipura Main Road, Madavara Post, madanayakanahalli, Bangalore Rural 562123 have changed my name to Phoolaram Purohit

I, ANUPAMA SHUKLA, W/o DEEPAK KUMAR PANDEY and resident at UNIT 1226 Tower-1,Prestige Lakeside Habitat,Varthur Main Road Gunjur,Bengaluru-560087 Karnataka, have changed my name as ANUPAMA PANDEY vide affidavit dated 16.08.2022 sworn before notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru.

I, PADMAVATHI MOHAN, D/o, CHILMATHUR RAM MOHAN and Residing at No.4, Ground Floor, Elegant Residency, 22nd A Main, Padmanabhanagar, Bsk 2nd Stage, Bangalore 560070 have changed my name to PADMAA vide affidavit dated 20.07.2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I Porus Behram Irani S/o Behram Dinshaw Irani R/at 1/17-1, ASHA, Hanumanthappa Layout, Halasuru Road Bangalore North, Bangalore-560042 have changed name as Porus Behramm Iranni Ahura in front of Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed Bangalore.

I,DIVYA Srivastav D/O of Pradeep Kumar Srivastva and Ekta Srivastava residing at 3053,Shobha Rose, Whitefield main Road Whitefield Bengaluru, 560066, have changed my name as Divya Srivastva

WE, N.Yogesh & P.V Kavitha both Husbend & wife R/a No.163, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, Kamalanagar, Bangalore-560079, declare that Our minor daughter Name have been changed from CHANDU.Y to CHANDANA.Y vide affidavit dated 10/08/2022 Sworn before Notary G.S Susheela Bangalore

I, Sunita Bhattacharya W/o Sushanta J Sarmah R/o #20113, Tower 20, Prestige Ferns Residency, Haralur road, off Sarjapur road, Bengaluru 560102 have changed my name to SUNITA BHATTACHARYA SARMAH affidavit Dt.17/08/2022 notary K.V Mani, B'luru

I, AZAM KHAN, R/at #15/1, 2nd Flr, Flat No.S101, Almeydan Apts, 2nd Cross, Hennur Main Rd, Bangalore - 560084. I Have Change my name AZAM KHAN MALIK, Vide Affidavit Dated: 16/08/2022. Sworn before Notary : V. Rajashekhara, Advocate B,lore.

I, Sanjivini Ingle W/o Mukesh Kumar Sanodiya R/o #12 East Sri Venkateshwara Homes, B3-2nd Flr ,3rd Cross Manjunath Layout Dead End Left, Marathalli B'lore-560037 have changed my name to Sanjivini Sanodiya for all purposes.

I, Sulekha kumari, W/O Niranjan, D/O Binesh singh, R/O 249/1, 10th main, 11th cross, Maruthi nagar, Malleshpalya extension, Bangalore- 560075 has changed my name to Sulekha singh for all future purposes.

I, ABHIJITH, S/o, Upendra T G and residing at K A Street, Sringeri, Chikkamagaluru 577139 have changed my name to ABHIJITH KALLUGUDDE UPENDRA vide affidavit dated 16.08.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, Rabia Anis W/O, Anis Kader Jaliawala R/o No 19/1 Old 61/a 2nd Cross K N Extension Yeshwanthapur Bengaluru - 560022 have changed my name to Rabiya Anis Jaliawala for all purposes.

K'taka's side: State set to claim share in Hogenakkal tourism pie

State government plans to construct watchtower on popular waterfall to boost tourism

Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Hogenakkal is undoubtedly the top tourist destination for Bengalureans. However, as of now, 99.9 per cent of tourists visit the waterfalls from Tamil Nadu's side. The state government has decided to promote Hogenakkal as a tourist destination so that it can be visited from Karnataka's side.

Forest Minister Umesh Katti recently visited Hogenakkal from Male Mahadeshwara Hills' side and said that measures will be taken to boost tourism. He said, "We will promote Hogenakkal as one of the top waterfalls of Karnataka. We will construct a watch tower. The collapsed bridge will be reconstructed to help tourists."

Locals say that the tourism and forest department have great potential to develop the Hogenakkal area as a tourist spot.

"If you happen to visit Hogenakkal from the Tamil Nadu side, one can see a small town has developed to cater to tourists like food outlets to massage centres. However, on the Karnataka side, except for a few coracles, there is hardly any service. So, we are demanding that the government promote Hogennakal along with the famous pilgrim spot of MM Hills,' said Sandesh S, a travel enthusiast from Bengaluru.

Hogenakkal waterfall is one of the top tourist destinations in Karnataka, but most tourists visit it from the Tamil Nadu side

Meanwhile, with Cauvery in spate, the entry to main waterfalls in Hogenakkal has been restricted from the Tamil Nadu side. Hundreds of tourists are visiting the place without being aware of the restrictions.

With heavy rains in catchment areas of the Cauvery River in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, the water in the Mettur Dam has reached the reservoir level. The inflow into the water had recently exceeded one lakh cusecs.

Meanwhile, the local police said that there was a dangerous trend where many tourists were venturing into the gushing waters of Cauvery between the Hogenakkal and Biligundlu areas.

With the Cauvery river in spate, the entry to the main waterfalls in Hogenakkal has been restricted from Tamil Nadu's side

According to police, since people are barred from the main falls, many go to the Biligundlu area where there is open access to Cauvery.

"Scores of cars are parked on the narrow road creating traffic jams. We are trying to prevent people from getting into the river where there are a lot of whirlpools and crocodiles. However, many are still trying to venture into the river and risking their lives. Hence, we appeal to the public not to venture into the river when it is in spate," said a police official.

GALLERIA

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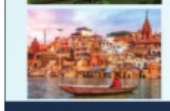

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DEP:10-10-2022 RET:15-10-2022
DEP:17-10-2022 RET:22-10-2022
DEP:24-10-2022 RET:29-10-2022
DEP:31-10-2022 RET:05-11-2022
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No move to shift Rohingya refugees to EWS flats: MHA

The Union Home Ministry on Wednesday denied any move to shift Rohingya Muslims in Delhi to economically weaker section (EWS) flats and directed the Delhi government to ensure the "illegal foreigners" remain in detention centres pending their extradition.

The ministry's clarification came hours after Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri put out a tweet saying India has always welcomed those who have sought refuge in the country and announced that all Rohingya refugees would be shifted to EWS flats in east Delhi's Bakkarwala area.

The Home Ministry issued a statement clarifying its position.

"Illegal foreigners are to be kept in Detention Centre till their deportation as per law. The Government of Delhi has not declared the present location as a Detention Centre. They have been directed to do the same immediately," a spokesperson said in the statement on Twitter.

"With respect to news reports in certain sections of the media regarding Rohingya illegal foreigners, it is clarified that the MHA has not given any directions to provide EWS flats to Rohingya illegal migrants at Bakkarwala in New Delhi," the spokesperson said.

Puri tagged a news agency story in his posts and said those who had made a career out of spreading canards on India's refugee policy deliberately linking it to CAA will be disappointed.

"India respects & follows @UN Refugee Convention 1951 & provides refuge to all, regardless of their race, religion or creed," he said.

"In a landmark decision all #Rohingya #Refugees will be shifted to EWS flats in the Bakkarwala area of Delhi. They will be provided basic amenities, UNHCR IDs and round-the-clock @DelhiPolice protection," he posted. According to a Home Ministry estimate, around 40,000 Rohingya migrants live in different parts of the country, including Delhi.

Last year, the government informed the Rajya Sabha that "illegal Rohingya immigrants" are staying in 12 states and union territories -- Jammu and Kashmir, Telangana, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Assam, Karnataka and Kerala.

—PTI

No house on rent, transperson pleads for mercy killing

A transperson has filed a petition before the Kodagu District Commissioner in Karnataka seeking mercy killing after being denied a house on rent by owners, officials said on Wednesday.

The transperson, a resident of Madikeri city, has stated in her petition that she was being denied a rented house by owners for being a third gender.

The petitioner also said that she was eking her livelihood through begging and had put up in a lodge. She had submitted a petition long ago to the office of the District Commissioner regarding the same issue, but she has not gotten any succour.

She had alleged that repeated attempts to draw the attention of the authorities have failed and the officers have not responded to her pleas.

The transperson stated that she was writing the last letter to the authorities and asked the district commissioner, Dr Sateesha BC, to fix up a date for her mercy killing as she is not able to take the mental suffering, torture and humiliation of violation of her rights.

—IANS

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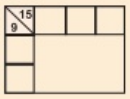
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

Find a Ten Digit number with all digits 0-9 such that starting from left first digit is divisible by 1, first two digits by 2, first 3 digits by 3 and so on...

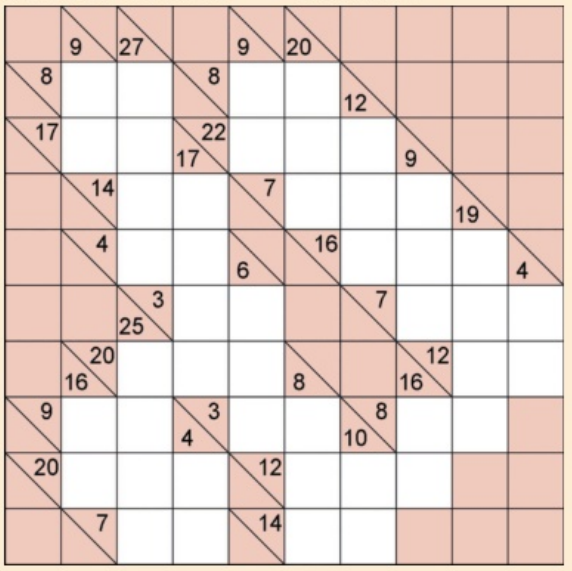
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

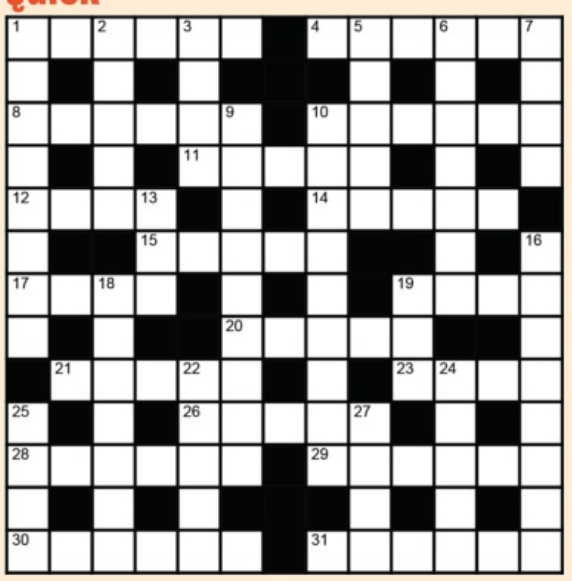


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Silhouette (6)
4 Meagre (6)
8 Parallel line at 23.5 degrees latitude (6)
10 Builds, constructs (6)
11 Robbery (5)
12 Falls behind (4)
14 Thigh bone (5)
15 Flavour; elegance (5)
17 Suggestive (4)
19 Italian volcano (4)
20 Bit player (5)
21 Joining together (5)
23 Musical instrument (4)
26 Tense or edgy (5)
28 Clear or transparent (6)
29 With no difficulty (6)
30 Female foxes (6)
31 Given instruction (6)

DOWN

1 Colonists (8)
2 In the middle of (5)
3 Leave out (4)
5 Ex ___ : one sided, in legal words? (5)
6 Narrate or tell; describe (7)
7 Irish (4)
9 Disciplined, chastised or punished (9)
10 Striking or remarkable; operative (9)
13 Pig's dwelling (3)
16 Reaction facilitator (8)
18 Multiplex on Outer Ring Road (7)
19 Dine (3)
22 A vegetable (5)
24 Utilizing (5)
25 European - "Val's" changed? (4)
27 Hindu God of death (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS O

HAO RL BRLKWU, RV WJO SHL ZRQOK WJO'L ZRVO ICWIOCZP.

Linemaro

What is the opposite of two? A lonely me, a lonely you

Mindchow

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent

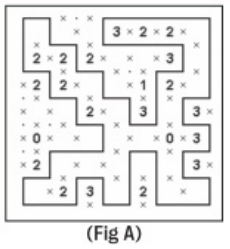
Joke of the day

How can there be self-help 'groups'?

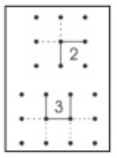
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



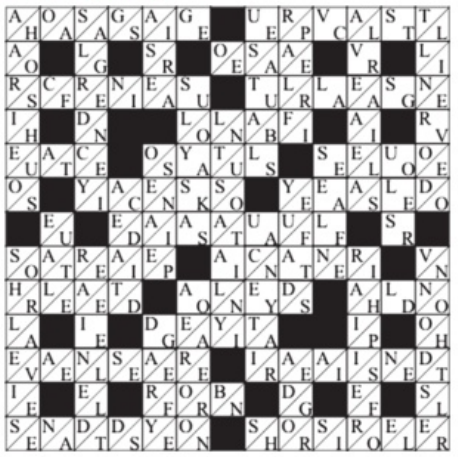
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1 G	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

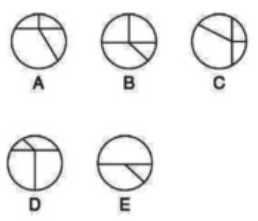
1 Slags; 6 Antra;
7 I Lobo; 8 Or pol;
9 Small

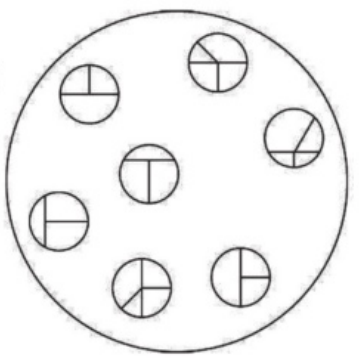
DOWN

1 Mr Goo; 2 L Arab;
3 To all; 4 All so;
5 Spins

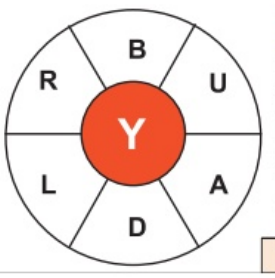
Mensapuzzle

Which circle below should be placed in the large circle above?





Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

09 Average; **09** Good; **11** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

1			7	6	8			5
3	6		2		5		4	7
	1	3				4	5	
				1				
	9	4				3	2	
6	5		3		2		1	9
2			9	8	6			4

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 25
1 5 6 6

Medium ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 9
2 2 4 5

Hard ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 11
1 6 8 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

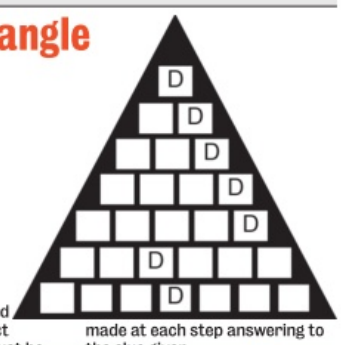
Differences: 1. Burger is moved. 2. Collar is missing. 3. Stripe is higher. 4. Hair is different. 5. Cap is reversed. 6. Counter is wider.

Riddler

Given below are three pairs of words. Each pair sounds similar, but have different meanings (they are homonyms). Can you find them? Burial/ Cremation formalities - Uses a pen and paper and forms legible words To communicate with God - Carnivore's target Watery part of milk that separates when milk turns to curds - The route or the course travelled from one place to another

Alpha triangle

1 Five hundred
2 Anno Domini
3 Young fellow
4 Pleased
5 Secreting organ
6 Cargo
7 Losing hair



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

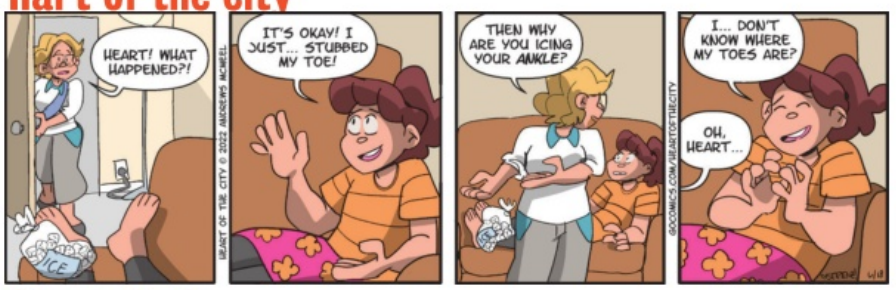
COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


HEART! WHAT HAPPENED?!
ICE
IT'S OKAY! I JUST... STUBBED MY TOE!
THEN WHY ARE YOU ICING YOUR ANKLE?
OH, HEART...
I... DON'T KNOW WHERE MY TOES ARE?
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

SO, HOW IS YOUR CRYPTOCURRENCY FUND DOING?
UNLIKE KRYPTO THE SUPER DOG...
OURS NEVER TOOK OFF!
BRAUN & DAVIS crankshaftcomic.com/books

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may feel dull. You may have some health issues. You are advised to postpone making investments in business. It is also advised not to start a new venture. You are likely to face losses in business. Your gains may convert to losses.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you are blessed by the moon and may be able to make quick decisions on the professional front. You may expect to get new opportunities in terms of business, which may boost your confidence levels. You are likely to start some new innovation with the help of your partner, which may increase your business in the near future.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you are blessed by the moon and may perform well at work. You may expect some promotions or transfers in terms of gains. You may also plan to change your current job. Your relationship with your boss may improve now. Chronic health issues will also be resolved now, which will make your family happy.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon, which may bring you confidence. You may be able to make important decisions confidently. You are decisive and can grab opportunities without a second thought. You are likely to spend money on family and friends. Lovebirds may enjoy happy moments. Job aspirants are likely to get a suitable job with the help of friends.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may have a dull feeling. You may not enjoy your day. You may be a victim of arrogance. it may affect both your professional and domestic life. You may internally feel a lack of confidence, which may stop you in doing something creative at work.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you are advised to control your straightforwardness. Your loose talking may affect people around you. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying some worthless items. Your mind is likely to work very fast, so it is advised to make any important decisions with patience.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you can make quick decisions, which may give you benefits in your day-to-day life. You can make some difficult decisions with the help of your colleagues. You are likely to get success easily. Property-related disputes between siblings are likely to be resolved. You can also expect some short trips.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today some uncertainty can slow down your goals and plans. Career matters and responsibilities can feel stronger, causing stress. It is advised to not let the stress flow into your day-to-day life. Meditation can cause relief.

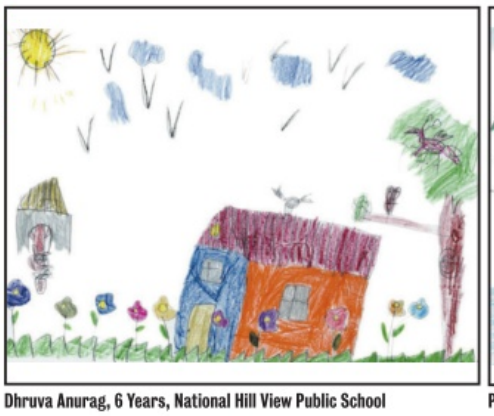
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may not feel better as old health issues may arise. It can make you upset. You could make some wrong decisions due to impatience and hurry. It is advised to think twice before making any decision. It is advised to not keep money loose, otherwise you may spend it by buying worthless items.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today there may be peace of mind. You may plan to invest some capital in your business, which can increase liquidity. Your earnings may boost your financial health. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which may enhance harmony in your family life. Singles are likely to find a suitable match. Lovebirds can make decisions to get married. Students will be blessed by good karma.

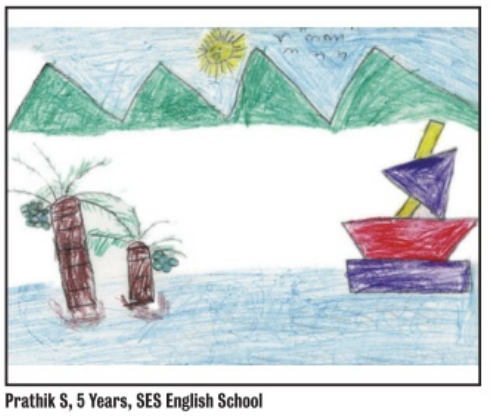
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may be very happy and your losses may convert to profits. Your seniors may be happy and appreciate your work. You are likely to see some changes into your place, position, or responsibilities at work in terms of promotions. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control now. Singles and lovebirds can make important decisions in terms of marriage with the help of relatives or friends.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you are blessed by the moon, which can make you happy. Last week's crunches are now over. With the help of elders, you may get reciprocation for your hard work. With the help of your subordinates, you may be able to re-initiate postponed tasks. There are some gains in your business which may boost your finances.

KIDZONE



Dhruva Anurag, 6 Years, National Hill View Public School



Prathik S, 5 Years, SES English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
3816547290
3÷1=3
38÷2=19
381÷3=127
3816÷4=954
38165÷5=7633
381654÷6=63609
3816547÷7=544221
38165472÷8=4770684
381654729÷9=42406081
3816547290÷10=38165472 9

BULL'S EYE
ably, badly, bray, burly, bury, dray, duly, DURABLY, lady, ruby, yard

FAST FIVE

G	L	A	S	S
R	A	T	A	N
O	B	O	L	I
O	R	L	O	P
M	A	L	L	S

STRIKE OUT

S	A	D	D	E	N	S	O	I	R	E	E
S	T	R	I	P	I	N	T	E	R	N
H	E	A	T	A	L	E	S	A	D	O
A	I	G	A	Y	A	I	O
V	E	N	E	E	R	R	A	I	S	E	D
E	E	R	O	B	G	E	L
A	G	R	O	S	E	V	I
S	C	E	N	E	S	U	L	L	A	G	E
H	N	O	L	A	F	R
E	T	C	S	A	U	L	S	L	O	E
S	Y	A	N	K	S	E	A	S	E	D
U	D	I	S	T	A	F	F	R
R	A	C	Y	T	C	E	T	N	A
L	A	G	S	A	F	E	M	U	R
T	N	T	H	E	F	T	O	E
T	R	O	P	I	C	E	R	E	C	T	S
E	M	M	A	E	R
S	H	A	D	O	W	S	P	A	R	S	E

QUICK

V	I	X	E	N	S	T	A	U	G	H	T
A	O	M	I	N	E	S
L	I	M	P	I	D	E	A	S	I	L	Y
S	E	N	E	R	V	Y	S	L
U	N	I	O	N	I	T	U	B	A
S	I	E	X	T	R	A	T
R	A	C	Y	T	C	E	T	N	A
E	T	A	S	T	E	N	C
L	A	G	S	A	F	E	M	U	R
T	N	T	H	E	F	T	O	E
3	6	8	2	9	5	1	4	7
1	4	2	7	6	8	9	3	5
E	M	M	A	E	R
S	H	A	D	O	W	S	P	A	R	S	E

MENSA PUZZLE
C: each circle is repeated rotated

RIDDLER
Rites – Writes, Pray – Prey, Whey – Way

QUOTE UNCODE
Age is...wisdom, if one has lived one's life properly.

SUDOKU

9	7	5	1	3	4	6	8	2
1	4	2	7	6	8	9	3	5
3	6	8	2	9	5	1	4	7
7	1	3	8	2	9	4	5	6
5	2	6	4	1	3	7	9	8
8	9	4	6	5	7	3	2	1
6	5	7	3	4	2	8	1	9
2	3	1	9	8	6	5	7	4
4	8	9	5	7	1	2	6	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, AD, Lad, Glad, Gland, Lading, Balding.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 x 5 + 1 – 6 = 25
Medium
5 + 2 – 2 + 4 = 9
Hard
8 x 2 – 6 + 1 = 11

LOOP

KAKURO

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